

position in the Subordinate Courts all over the Country, leaving 1500 vacancies to be filled.

(d) to (f) The Supreme Court of India is having 222 working days in a year. The Estimates Committee (8th Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Justice) examined the pendency of cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts and the working days in Supreme Court/High Courts. It was noticed that all High Courts were normally having 210 working days in a year. Working days/vacations of the subordinate courts are regulated by the concerned High Courts and the State Governments.

There were 21,936 cases pending in the Supreme Court as on 1.2.2001, 34.33 lakh cases pending in the High Courts as on 30.6.2000 and 2.02 crore cases pending in the Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.1998.

Vacancies in different courts

4047. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a large number of vacancies in different District Courts, High Courts and also in the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and in the Supreme Court;

(c) the reasons why the vacancies are not being filled up;

(d) the steps taken to fill up the vacancies; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (e) Appointment of District Judges and other judges of the subordinate courts is made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such State under the provisions of articles 233-234 of the Constitution of India. The Central Government have been

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periodically urging the State Governments/Union territories and the High Courts to accord utmost priority to filling up of vacant posts of judges and magistrates.

The filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts is a consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.

Statement

Details of vacancies in different Courts

(A) STATE-WISE DETAILS OF VACANT POSTS OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS AS ON 31.12.1998/1.6.2000

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/UT | No. of Sanctioned posts of Judicial Officers | No. of Judicial Officers as on 1.6.2000 | Vacancy Position |
|---------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 680 | 675 | 5 |
| 2 | *Assam | 216 | 204 | 12 |
| 3 | *Arunachal Pradesh | 293 | 293 | 0 |
| 4 | *Bihar | 1653 | 1372 | 281 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 626 | 516 | 110 |
| 6 | Goa | 44 | 36 | 8 |
| 7 | Haryana | 266 | 233 | 33 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 98 | 90 | 8 |
| 9 | Jammu & Kashmir | 161 | 161 | 0 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 640 | 584 | 56 |
| 11 | Kerala | 367 | 344 | 23 |
| 12 | *Madhya Pradesh | 943 | 756 | 187 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 1268 | 1156 | 112 |
| 14 | *Manipur | 26 | 26 | 0 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| 16 | Mizoram | 34 | 19 | 15 |
| 17 | Nagaland | 21 | 21 | 0 |
| 18 | *Orissa | 384 | 296 | 88 |
| 19 | Punjab | 301 | 274 | 27 |
| 20 | *Rajasthan | 624 | 624 | 0 |
| 21 | Sikkim | 13 | 11 | 2 |
| 22 | *Tamil Nadu | 692 | 688 | 4 |
| 23 | Tripura | 74 | 43 | 31 |

*as on 31.12.1998 (including posts of Special Judicial Magistrates).

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|----------------------|-------|-------|------|
| 24 | *Uttar Pradesh | 1797 | 1480 | 317 |
| 25 | *West Bengal | 544 | 503 | 41 |
| 26 | *A&N Islands | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| 27 | Chandigarh | 19 | 16 | 3 |
| 28 | Delhi | 385 | 249 | 136 |
| 29 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 30 | Daman & Diu | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 31 | Lakshadweep | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 32 | *Pondicherry | 17 | 17 | 0 |
| TOTAL: | | 12205 | 10705 | 1500 |

*as on 31.12.1998 (including posts of Special Judicial Magistrates).

(B) DETAILS OF VACANCIES IN THE HIGH COURTS AND SUPREME COURT AS ON 18.4.2001

I. High Courts Vacancies : 186

| Sl. No. | High Court | Vacancies in the approved strength |
|---------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Allahabad | 50 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 14 |
| 3 | Bombay | 10 |
| 4 | Calcutta | 16 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 4 |
| 6 | Delhi | 2 |
| 7 | Gauhati | 6 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 10 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 2 |
| 10 | Jammu & Kashmir | 6 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 6 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 3 |
| 13 | Kerala | 9 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 5 |
| 15 | Madras | 5 |
| 16 | Orissa | 2 |
| 17 | Patna | 12 |
| 18 | Punjab & Haryana | 12 |
| 19 | Rajasthan | 7 |
| 20 | Sikkim | 1 |
| 21 | Uttaranchal | 4 |
| TOTAL : | | 186 |

II. Supreme Court: Vacancies : 2